



Data Points

RESULTS FROM THE CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S HEALTH SURVEY

During the last decade, the proportion of women without health insurance coverage has increased annually.¹ Without health insurance, a woman may delay seeking health care when it is needed or may not receive preventive medical services in a timely manner. Several successful initiatives have been implemented to increase access to health insurance and to increase the types of coverage available (e.g., expanding Medi-Cal eligibility by raising the percent poverty test to cover the working poor), yet many Californians remain uninsured or underinsured.

The 1998 California Women's Health Survey asked women aged 18 years and older a series of questions to ascertain health insurance coverage at the time of the in-

terview. Each respondent was asked if she had health insurance coverage through her or her spouse's employment. Further, each woman was asked about the type of coverage: an individual plan, a group plan, Medicare, or other type of government-sponsored coverage.

- Women between the ages of 18 and 24 were most likely to report not having any health insurance coverage.
- Only one percent (1%) of women over 65 years of age reported not having any health insurance coverage.

AGE DISPARITIES IN HEALTH INSURANCE STATUS AMONG CALIFORNIA WOMEN, 1998

Maternal and Child
Health Branch

¹ Health Insurance Coverage: 1998, P60-208, U.S. Census Bureau; Health Insurance Coverage: 1997, P60-202, U.S. Census Bureau; Health Insurance Coverage: 1996, P60-199, U.S. Census Bureau; Health Insurance Coverage: 1995, P60-195, U.S. Census Bureau; Health Insurance Coverage: 1994, P60-190, U.S. Census Bureau

Lack of Health Insurance Coverage Among Women
Under Age 65, California, 1998

